11/1/10 - Monday, November 1, 2010

EAU CLAIRE LANDMARKS COMMISSION

Meeting of November 1, 2010

Members Present: Jenny Ebert, Katrinka Bourne, Sue Nelson, David Klinkhammer, Barbara Lozar, Ken Fulgione

Members Absent: Carrie Ronnander

Minutes. The minutes of the October 4, 2010 meeting were approved as written.

The meeting was chaired by Jenny Ebert.

1. Presentation and Discussion of Eastside Hill and Westside Intensive Survey.

Joe DeRose, from the Wisconsin Historical Society and Tim Heggland, CLG consultant were present at the meeting to discuss the Intensive Survey Report prepared with funds from the 2009 CLG grant project. The Intensive Survey Report focused on the Eastside Hill Neighborhood and a portion of the upper Westside Neighborhood.

Joe DeRose discussed the National Register program, including the criteria for eligibility for an individual property and for a district and also the rehabilitation tax credit program. It was noted that a building had be at least 50 years old and be either architecturally or historically significant. Joe also discussed the Certified Local Government Grant program that is administered through his office.

Tim Heggland discussed the methodology and findings from the Intensive Survey. Tim noted that there are many very good buildings within the two study areas, but he did not find any concentrations of buildings that would be potential National Register districts. In addition, only a few individual properties were>

The Commission had a number of questions and thanked Joe and Tim for attending the meeting.

2. Discussion of Third Ward Landmark District and 1994 Ordinance Review.

The Commission discussed the recent meetings of the Third Ward District subcommittee. It was noted that the public informational meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 8th at 7:00 p.m. at the Masonic Temple. It was also noted that the City Council had directed the Commission to review the 1994 Landmarks Ordinance amendments. Copies of the 1994 amendments as well as the 1992 amendment and current ordinance were included in the Commission™s agenda packet. Several Commission members asked if they could discuss this further at the December meeting as they did not have sufficient time to review all the information in the agenda packet.

Pat lvory noted that in his review, he had several suggestions for the Commission to consider. These included:

- -providing a mechanism for individual properties to be reinstated into a historic district without having to go through the process of amending the entire district;
- -when a proposed historic district is considered by the City Council, that they should be allowed to make changes without having to refer the district back to the Landmarks Commission;
- -allowing the City Council to approve a district designation by a majority vote of the full membership (six votes) rather than by a 2/3 vote of the full membership;
- -incorporate changes to allow for the phasing in the opted out properties if so desired by the City Council (several options have been discussed by the subcommittee.)

Commission members indicated that they felt that these suggestions seemed reasonable and noted that they would continue their discussion at the December meeting.

3. Discussion of Landmark Request for 407 Lincoln Avenue.

The Commission continued their discussion regarding the request of the owners of 407 Lincoln Avenue who are interested in having their property added back into the Third Ward Historic Landmark District. The previous property owners removed the property from the district in 1992. The Commission reviewed photos of the property and Pat noted that the property was considered a contributing property at the time it was opted out of the district.

Pat noted that Carrie Ronnander had researched the history of the house and did not find any information that would indicate that the property was historically significant. Katrinka Bourne noted that the house was still architecturally intact and would still be considered contributing. She didn™t feel it would be considered pivotal.

Pat noted that based on this analysis, the property could not be reinstated into the district as an individual property, rather the district would have to be amended or a change to the ordinance as discussed with the previous agenda item should be considered. Sue Nelson indicated that she would contact the property owner to let them know that the Commission was continuing to work on the request.

4. Update on Landmark Activities and Properties.

A. Update from Eau Claire Historic Preservation Foundation. Pat Kurtenbach has not present at the meeting to provide an update of Foundation activities.

- B. WHS Fall Conference. Katrinka Bourne provided a summary of the WHS fall conference. Topics included discussions on the National Register, the economic value of historic preservation, procedures and rules for Commission meetings, etc. The Commission thanked Katrinka for attending the conference.
- C. Commission Membership of 2011. The Commission discussed that the second terms of Sue Nelson and Ken Fulgione would be ending in December. Sue is a citizen member of the Commission and Ken is the licensed realtor.

There being no further business to come before the Commission, the meeting was adjourned at 6:20p.m.

Submitted by,

Sue Nelson, Secretary